

THE MCGILL DAILY

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Comsymps since 1911.

Wednesday, October 2, 1991

McGill student runs for Greens in city by-election

by Peter Clibbon

A McGill student is running in the upcoming municipal by-election in Nôtre-Dame de Graces.

Dylan Perceval, an Arts and Environmental Sciences student at McGill, is running as a candidate for Ecology Montréal, the city's green party. The vote will take place November 3.

Perceval supports participatory democracy, public transport and reform of Montréal's waste management.

Perceval said the political system needs lacks democracy. "The government does things that people

don't want them to do. Free trade is a good example. Participatory democracy, however, means a number of voters can petition for a referendum on a specific issue. Under the current system, people must elect representatives to act for them on specific issues."

The municipal government has a skewed sense of priorities, said Perceval.

The city is proposing a \$100-million investment on upgrading the Des Carrières incinerator. But it has no funds for curbside recycling.

"It's ironic that the municipal government spent close to \$2.6

million renovating the Chalet on top of Mont-Royal, while it only spends \$2.7 million annually on its recycling programme," he said.

Perceval also criticized the city for not finding alternative revenue sources to fund the Montréal's beleaguered public transit system.

"It's ridiculous that bus service should be declining in this environmental day and age. Perhaps this shows that the people in power don't take the city bus often enough, or else budget cuts to public transit would have never happened," he said.

In the last civic election in 1991, the Ecology Montréal candidate for N.D.G. won 20 per cent of the local

vote.

But Perceval may split the progressive vote with the city's other reform-minded party, the Democratic Coalition Party of Montréal. Democratic Coalition members nominated Claudette Godley to run in the N.D.G. riding two weeks ago.

The contest between the two seems to mark the end of a non-aggression pact between the city's two progressive opposition parties. In the 1991 election, the two parties divided the city so that no riding had candidates from both parties.

Perceval said an Ecology Montréal councillor in opposition would change the tone of debate at city

council.

"Electing a Democratic Coalition member to city hall doesn't necessarily send a green voice to council," said Perceval.

The ruling Montréal Citizens' Movement (MCM) party nominated African-Canadian community activist Leith Hamilton for the N.D.G. by-election.

The riding became vacant following the retirement of Michael Fainstat, a long-time MCM councillor and a member of the city government's powerful Executive Committee.

The two other city parties, the Civic Party and Municipal Party, have not yet announced candidates.

Tenured profs throw a wrench into McGill's plans for Dentistry

by Susan Vivian

What will happen to the Dentistry faculty's tenured professors?

This is the question McGill may not have considered when it announced plans to close the faculty last summer. Job security for tenured profs may prevent McGill from saving any money from closing Dentistry.

"The university assumes closure will end the tenured positions of Dentistry staff," said Dentistry professor Hershey Warshawsky.

But professors displaced by a closure would be under no obligation to leave their tenured posts at the university, Warshawsky says. Most could also teach in medicine and continue research projects.

"If the reasons for closure are financial, savings will be marginal," said Warshawsky.

This would throw a wrench into McGill's plans for the faculty, he said. One of the main reasons for the closure is that McGill would save money which would go to profs' salaries, said Warshawsky. Salaries currently account for 90 per cent of the faculty budget.

Warshawsky said that the university could try to convince dentistry professors to retire, but that such a package would not be readily accepted.

"Why should they retire when tenure means employment for life," he asked.

Also, because McGill has no mandatory retirement policy, the administration may not save money on salaries even after the professors reach 65 years of age. It would cost the university \$1.5 million to pay off all the retired dentistry professors. The figures will be higher in 1995, when the closure is scheduled to take place.

Warshawsky said the university could try to save money by taking

the controversial path of actually dismissing 17 professors in Dentistry.

But if the university choses this option, it will face embarrassing hearings and arbitration, Warshawsky said.

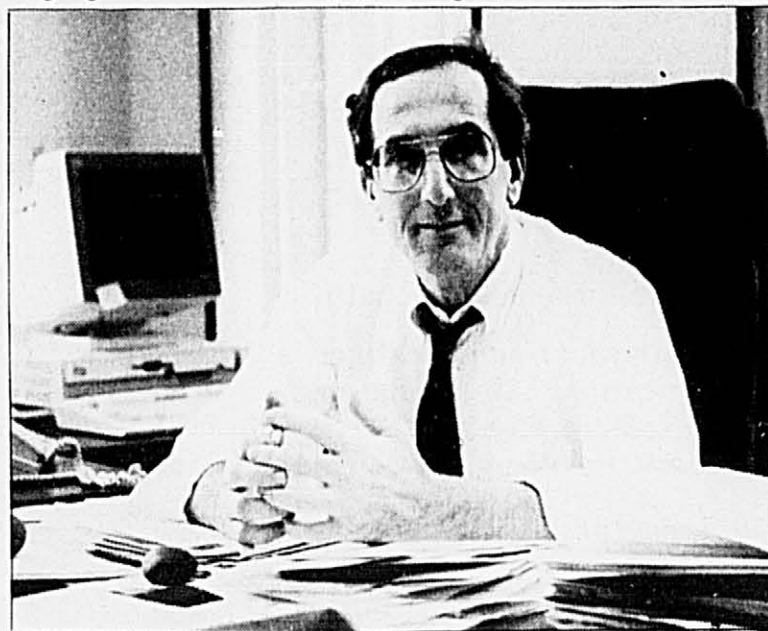
Such dismissals must go to third-party arbitration. The university is obliged in these instances to pay all legal costs.

"The Dentistry faculty cannot accept that tenure, which took so long to grant, can be taken away by

be given new job placements within the university.

The five pre-dentistry students for this year were found placements in either medicine at McGill or dentistry at the University of Montréal. No McGill dentistry applications for next year are available.

Warshawsky said that Principal David Johnson's endorsement of the closure is cause for concern as the university is already acting as though the closure is inevitable.



Carmen Miller questions Johnson.

PHOTO CREDIT: DAN TAI

decisions before the Chief Executive Officer of the university makes any decisions."

Student organizations have also criticized the administration's procedures. Students' Society passed a resolution last week condemning the lack of time and information given the Dentistry Faculty and the administration's failure to consider alternatives to outright closure.

a decision to close a unit," Warshawsky said.

The non-academic dentistry staff also have job security, and must

Carmen Miller, president of the McGill Teachers Association (MAUT), has also stepped into the fray, saying that there are procedural irregularities in how McGill has said it will close the faculty. The closure recommendation has not been brought to the right bodies of university government through proper channels, he said.

Miller was troubled that the proposal has already been accepted by Principal Johnson.

"We would prefer that these bodies received such recommen-

Bookfair's book-trashing decried

by Lynn Chaiken

The McGill Book Fair will throw out nearly 300 boxes of unsold books following this year's sale.

According to book fair organizers, the trashing of hundreds of unsold or damaged books regularly inspires criticism from students and donors.

"I'm concerned because I donate books in good faith. If I'm going to donate the books they shouldn't be going into the garbage," said McGill graduate student Nashira Keshavjee.

Book Fair volunteer Jane Ford, who handled complaints from several students, said "every few years we get criticized." The offended parties offer few alternatives for these books, she said.

Students interfered with the removal of books headed for a garbage truck in front of Redpath Library last week. They were retrieving books judged "unacceptable" for sale by fair volunteers.

Charities are normally invited to select books after the sale is over, said Ford. However, out of 86 charities invited last year, only six came to collect. Many didn't collect books because they couldn't be delivered.

This year, fair volunteers estimate eighty percent of the books will be sold. Remaining books will be divided between books kept for next year's sale and books destined for the garbage.

Fair volunteers said some of these second hand books are already "garbage." Books are donated by area libraries, publishers, and individuals, and are often in poor condition.

"We are the final clearinghouse, which explains why we have garbage," said Ford.

Although in recent years donations to the book fair have increased, McGill has been unable to provide additional space for them. In fact, McGill has asked for the book fair's space by October 25. Such time constraints limit delivering or recycling efforts, said Ford.

Recycling unsold books was an option considered by the volunteer committee. But the idea was dropped because it would be difficult to solicit the workpower needed to prepare the books for recycling, said a book fair volunteer.

Québec Public Interest Research Group member Nina Hall said re-using the books rather than recycling is preferable because some books may be useful to organizations like "Le Comité de Vigilance", which is seeking to establish a library.

Book fair volunteer Mary Rodgers said shipping the extra boxes to needy libraries is too expensive. She questioned whether sending twenty year old texts is worthwhile.

Hugo de Burgos, a McGill student active at the Centre for Cooperation with El Salvador, said the centre could send unsold books to El Salvador. Some of the books donated to the University of El Salvador's library will be shipped in November.

But book fair volunteers said that to give the extra books away to non-charities would defeat the sale's purpose. Remaining books are sold for 25 cents apiece.

The McGill Book Fair is organized by the Women's Alumnae Society and the Women's Associates of McGill. Last year the two organizations raised \$60,000 for women's bursaries. This year's book fair will be held October 23 and 24 in Redpath Hall.



Carol Kavanagh

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The Daily wishes to thank everyone who came to the First Nations film night Monday evening. Thanks to your contributions, we are able to donate \$275 to the Mohawk Legal Defense Fund.

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I THOUGHT SCHOOL WAS A JAIL.



UNTIL I GOT A JOB. BOY, WAS THAT A JAIL!



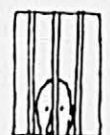
THEN I GOT MARRIED. EVEN MORE OF A JAIL!



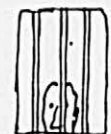
UNTIL I GOT DRAFTED INTO THE ARMY. THE WORST JAIL YET!



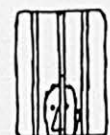
UNTIL I GOT IN TROUBLE AND WENT TO JAIL.



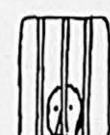
AND LEARNED THAT JAIL IS EVEN MORE OF A JAIL THAN SCHOOL, A JOB, MARRIAGE, OR THE ARMY.



SO FINALLY I KNOW WHAT FREEDOM'S ALL ABOUT:



THE RIGHT TO CHOOSE WHICH JAIL.



McGill investigated by Human Rights Commission

by Neelam Sandhu

The Québec Human Rights Commission is investigating McGill for human rights violations.

The investigation was initiated in response to five charges of discrimination against employees.

Former Religious Studies professor Richard Cooper lodged one of the complaints after his contract was not renewed by McGill two years ago. Cooper became convinced that the university's decision was based on his sexual orientation.

In all, gay or lesbian employees laid three of the five charges.

McGill conducted its own internal review after Cooper's complaint was made, but failed to turn up any

problems, according to McGill's legal advisor Raynald Mercille.

"The university denies all allegations of discrimination. The decision concerning Cooper was made on purely administrative matters."

When Cooper was dismissed from the faculty of Religious Studies two years ago, university administrators cited budgetary restrictions.

But Cooper said money could not have been the problem.

"Judging from the way funds have been distributed in the department, it is my opinion that the reason given is not tenable."

Cooper taught the course on Alternative Sexualities and Religion for two years.

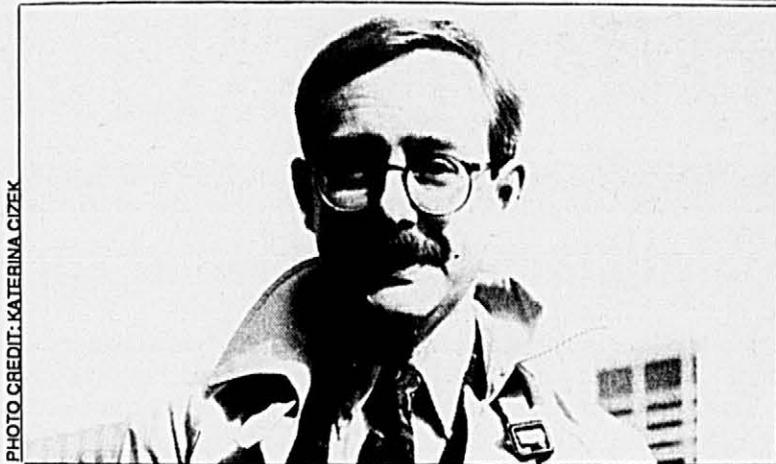
"The course was gay positive, unlike other courses now taught in the Faculty of Religious Studies, which take an uninformed and homophobic stance in relation to same sex love," Coope said.

The course description set general topics, but allowed professors to choose the relevant sub-topics. Cooper believes his choice of material is the reason he lost the teaching post he held at McGill since 1977.

Cooper's course was not passed by a screening committee before he taught it.

Cooper is not currently receiving any financial support from McGill, although he was associated with the university for over 20 years.

If the human rights commission decides in Cooper's favour, the



Richard Cooper takes on McGill.

university will be bound by any decision it makes. Failure to comply would result in the Commission taking McGill to court.

The Québec Human Rights Commission recently completed the first stage of the investigation, in which it gathered preliminary information. Now, a more thorough private investigation is under way.

Former McGill employee Rob-

ert Head has also laid two formal complaints against the university for discrimination based on sexual orientation. Employees have also lodged two other complaints of discrimination based on gender and colour.

Cooper said the Human Rights Commission has been "very helpful," and encouraged other McGill employees with complaints of discrimination to seek its help.

More nickels in Carleton's piggy bank

by David Bartolf

OTTAWA (CUP) — There are some things universities will always attract — bad food, stuffy administrators and money from controversial sources.

Carleton University recently accepted a \$750 000 donation from the International Nickel Company (INCO), Canada's biggest investor in military-governed Indonesia.

In return for the donation, Carleton will name one of its buildings the INCO Centre. The building will house offices, classrooms and the Centre for Research in Particle Physics.

INCO's involvement on Canadian campuses has recently aroused

controversy because of the firm's close links to the military dictators of Indonesia.

To protest INCO's \$1-million donation to Queen's university's mining department, Queen's student Bill Ripley went on a 42-day hunger strike last year.

Ripley charged that INCO's \$1-billion strip-mine and smelting operation in Sulawesi, Indonesia, has led to a strong association between INCO and the military in that country.

Ripley also said INCO pays its Indonesian employees an annual salary of \$1200 to \$3000, a fraction of what Canadian INCO workers earn. INCO is cutting back operations in Canada and expanding in

Indonesia because of its cheap labour and lax regulations, he said.

An accident at the INCO site in August 1990 that left six workers dead still has not been investigated, Ripley also said.

The student council at Queen's university has passed a resolution asking the administration to set up a board to review its corporate contributors. The administration hasn't responded.

So far, the Carleton student body has yet to react so dramatically.

Pat O'Brien, Carleton public relations director, said the INCO donation is acceptable. There is no review board to screen corporate endowments at Carleton, he said.

O'Brien said he wouldn't de-

scribe all corporate donors as "squeaky clean," but he said he would assume "all their interests are legal."

O'Brien said the naming of the INCO Centre is the second instance of a policy to "tailor-make deals" in recognition of large corporate endowments. Another large corporation, Minto Construction, has contributed \$1 million to the Minto Centre for Advanced Studies in Engineering.

Hans Mes, director of the Carleton Centre for Research in Particle Physics, said INCO's interest in Carleton developed during the university's involvement in the Sudbury Neutrino Observatory.

The Neutrino Observatory will be a massive tank of regular and heavy water two kilometres underground in INCO's Creighton Mine. The use of the INCO mine saves the project \$150 million.

Carleton requested a donation from INCO after working with the corporation on the Observatory.

The observatory is planned to start operations in 1995. The particle physics centre is now building particle detectors to be used in the observatory.

Other Canadian universities involved in the observatory project are Queen's, Laurentian, UBC and Guelph.

MONTRÉAL STUDENT PRESS REVIEW

To keep readers informed of events occurring on other campus in the city, the *Daily* has produced a summary of the best of Montréal's student newspapers.

— *Continuum*, Université de Montréal.

• The corporation that runs University de Montréal's cafeterias has been criticized for raising its prices while reducing meal portions.

Over the summer Versabec (which also runs several cafeterias at McGill), "adjusted" the prices of several "meal deals". The \$3.25 special was raised by a quarter, and desert and bread were excluded from the deal. A slightly pricier meal went up 55 cents to \$4.60, excluding taxes.

Versabec officials told *Continuum* the corporation had incurred a deficit of \$300 000 last year and that another deficit had to be avoided. In the contract signed between Versabec and the U de M student association FAECUM, Versabec is required to provide

"complete" meals.

A U de M watchdog committee ensuring Versabec fulfills its contractual obligations was not consulted and has yet to discuss the price hikes.

• University of Montréal's student radio, CISM, discovered that PCB's may be stored on campus after two lost firefighters came to the station's offices looking for PCB's.

The firefighters were part of a team producing an inventory of Montréal-area PCB storage sites.

University spokesperson Philippe Germain said he was not aware an inspection had taken place. Although transformers at U de M had once contained PCB-laden oils, they were removed, according to Germain.

But Martin Corbeil, spokesperson for the Montréal Fire Department, said the firefighters had found PCB's in eight of the transformers inspected that day. The last time the university's transformers were inspected, three years ago, PCB's were also found.

However, according to Germain, the campus' PCB's were removed this summer by Environment Canada at a cost of \$1 million. *Continuum* was unable to confirm whether the removal had actually occurred.

— *Montréal Campus*, UQAM

• "The nightmare of Bertrand Loisel is over." Charges against Loisel, a student activist, by a Montréal businessman were dropped last month. The charges stemmed from a "sit-in" staged 18 months ago by students protesting tuition fee increases.

300 students occupied the offices of Montréal's Chamber of Commerce (CCM) in March 1990 and chanted slogans until police forced them to leave.

Soon after, CCM Administration Vice-President M. Lacharité accused Loisel of illegally "confining" him from his offices. If convicted, Loisel could of served ten years in prison.

Fortunately for Loisel, the preliminary hearings could not find

suitable evidence to lay charges. Lacharité could not identify Loisel in the courtroom and could not prove that he had been detained by students.

Legal defense was funded by UQAM's student association.

— *The Link*, Concordia

• A paper recycling program, began at Concordia University last year, has reduced quantities of waste produced by half.

In a memo, recycling committee member Hugh Brodie said the programme saves Concordia \$900 a month. The committee also has several projects planned for this year

to continue decreasing the waste put out by the school.

Ken Huck of the Québec Public Interest Research Group (QPIRG) said the programme does not go far enough.

Recycling committee members acknowledged the University has been more concerned with economy than ecology. But Brodie said the committee is involved in

other projects which are not so focussed on cost saving.

Both the committee and QPIRG agree students can play a larger part in reducing waste by insisting on recycled paper at the bookstore and using the recycling boxes.

— *Thursday Report*, Concordia

• A proposed joint chair between UQAM and Concordia in intercultural, ethnic and race relations received \$400 000 from federal Multicultural Minister, Gerry Weiner.

Concordia Engineering professor Corrine Jetté told the *Report* that the chair's purpose is to establish "an academic area of expertise" by organizing conferences, developing academic programmes and research, and assisting faculty in the pursuit of harmonious cross-cultural communication in the classroom.

The chair, which has been in the works for a year, will alternate between the two universities.

— *Compiled by Fiona Deller*



THE MCGILL DAILY

COMMENT

SSMUcialism, Shmoocialism

You may have trouble imagining the Students' Society executive decorating the Alley with portraits of the glorious working student, giving out copies of *The Communist Manifesto* at the Info Kiosk, or trying to collectivise MacDonald College.

But according to an editorial in yesterday's *McGill Tribune*, the Students' Society and its leaders are unwitting dupes of the Reds.

Chris Alam's piece first samples the Funk & Wagnall rap on socialism: "Public, collective... control of... production, distribution and exchange with the... aim of operating for use rather than for profit..."

Then, with the showmanship of a modern-day Doug Henning, Alam reveals before our very eyes the hotbed of subversion that is Students' Society.

He pulls pinko rabbits from his hat, like food services contracts and the proposed health insurance plan. He transforms them in a puff of jargon into proof of the Society's betrayal of free markets everywhere.

But he's doing it all with smoke and mirrors.

Students' Society isn't even a union, let alone a commie utopia. A category like 'socialism' is irrelevant to an organisation like the Students' Society, and probably to anything else.

Alam's implicit comparison with the USSR is apropos, but only because the Society's structure is similarly centralised, self-serving and corrupt.

All its power is concentrated in a central committee, many of whom are non-student employees. And even the students in the bunch seem to have gleaned their understanding of democracy, power and community from Mr. Dressup.

As for "use rather than profit" — somebody is profiting from food services at McGill. Trouble is, it ain't students, it's a \$900-million corporation. And we won't be surprised if the health plan works out that way, too.

Do we have *too much* 'collective' control over the policies and practices these companies implement, or the way they're hired in the first place? Or the jobs they give to our ex-VP Finances?

Like Alam, we'd like to see the current Students' Society dismantled. The difference is, we want something put in its place to help students gain power over their own lives and money.

Imagine a real student union, composed of federated student associations with serious political mandates and democratic structures. And cooperatively-run services, managed by students themselves. Wouldn't that be more responsible and effective than Alam's campus mall?

Yes, maybe that has something to do with "use rather than profit." It also has to do with disposing of bureaucrats, opportunists and their ideologies. With any luck, they'll be the first against the wall when the revolution comes. (Just kidding, just kidding.)

Carl Wilson
Robin LeBaron

Alex Roslin
Katerina Cizek

LETTERS

Succinctness good

To the Daily:

If Mr. Chomski has yet to reply to Mr. Islam's letter dated September 25, 1991, please allow me the liberty to ask Mr. Islam the following:

Mr. Islam, I appreciate your succinctness. However, if you can find the time to expand upon the reasoning which led you to conclude that Mr. Chomski's letters are indeed "foolish," I would be greatly indebted.

Thanking you in advance.

Rob Blitt
U1 Arts

Daily crime?

To the Daily:

I was surprised by Salimah Valiani's article in which he says, "...spreading the usual hate propa-

ganda about Farrakhan and the so-called anti-Jew, anti-white Nation of Islam." *The Daily* published an article (Sept. 16) about Donald Mohammed's speech, in which James MacInnis wrote, "Louis Farrakhan is well-known for having called Judaism a 'gutter religion'." That sounds quite anti-Jewish to me, Mr. Valiani. Tell us, Mr. Valiani, is *The Daily* also "spreading the usual hate propaganda about Farrakhan"? Or informing its readers of the truth?

As you may know, Mr. Valiani, publishing hate literature is a crime in Canada. I urge you to file criminal charges against *The Daily* and *The Gazette*, if they have broken the law. If they haven't, please desist from your ranting and raving about "hate propaganda."



Manchu Wok, it's over that niii, comrade.

Mr. Valiani, your allegations and "evidence" against B'nai Brith are ludicrous. The wild accusations of one person does not prove a fact. For example, "BRIAN MULRONEY IS SATAN INCARNATE!" Is this a fact? Is this proof because I am a Canadian. No, Mr. Valiani, it's obviously absurd and completely false.

The Black community and the Jewish community have many things in common. They have both been historically persecuted. They are both despised by the KKK, neo-nazis and skinheads. This would indicate some common interests, and there may be advantages of working together toward common goals. But the radical right-wing views of Mr. Valiani are not conducive to this process.

Emmanuel Chomski
U1 Chemistry

Ed. note: Actually, "Mr." Valiani is a woman.

Column for Chomski

To the Daily:

We think that your fascination with the "mysterious and clever" Emmanuel Chomski should be the focus of a series of witty Doritos advertisements. Perhaps if Emmanuel Chomski is made a commercial success, then you, the anti-capitalist editors of the *Daily*,

will lose interest in his letters. Surely, there are more letters submitted to you than the few that are published. Maybe you would prefer to set up a weekly editorial column written by Emmanuel Chomski since you obviously have such an abundance of space and since he obviously has such an abundance of time. In the meantime, it would be appreciated if letters written by people other than Emmanuel Chomski were printed.

Kelley Sherwood, Political
Science U2

Sarah Aimenhaga, Biology U2
Ed. note: The Daily prints all student letters, in the order they are received. We give priority to anyone who hasn't had a letter published that week.

No credit

To the Daily:

"The Strange Case of Doug McDonald on Pee Wee." I am writing this letter in response to an article that appeared in the September 26 Cultural issue on the downfall of Mr. Herman. The previous day I had read a feature in *Rolling Stone* magazine (Issue #614; October 3rd, 1991) which detailed the predicament in a way similar to that of Mr. McDonald. I was deeply bothered by these similarities and would like to see this problem ad-

dressed in some way.

When one uses an article, or several articles, as a source for an original piece of work, and one quotes from such an article and borrows certain ideas, one should quote that source. In addition to crediting the *Village Voice* for the graphic used, he should also have credited *Rolling Stone* magazine in some way.

Sean Hutchison
U2 Middle Eastern Studies

Ed. note: The Daily used a wide variety of sources in preparing for the article, and made use of four quotes from the Pee Wee Herman show which Rolling Stone had cited. These should have been attributed in the article. The Daily apologizes for the oversight.

Homophobic

To the Daily:

Re: Chris Barrigar's letter "SSMU too PC (politically correct)."

In his letter Mr. Barrigar criticizes the fact that the "Same Sex Love" section in the Student Handbook was overly representative of our interests. He suggests that this occurred because Lesbian and Gay liberation is presently a "politically correct" issue.

A close examination of his arguments reveals them to be so transparent and without credibility that one wonders about the point of his letter. One is left with the realization that he is a homophobe and, like most homophobes, probably a sexist and a racist as well (intolerance knows few bounds).

He suggests that since McGill is a pluralist university that nine pages is excessive to be devoted to lesbian and gay issues. First, if lesbians and gays occupy about 10 to 20 per cent of the student population it seems to me that we are underrepresented in 192-page handbook (if one is to take this line of reasoning). Second, it was not the case that only nine pages were reserved for oppressed groups. We had those pages because, quite frankly, we did the work over the summer.

I am more concerned with the suggestion that our cause is too "politically correct." One hears this sort of criticism about: women's causes, people of colour causes, and queer causes. It is a right-wing backlash pure and simple. These groups are fighting for tolerance and equality. To suggest that there is something too "politically correct" about that is to suggest that there is something wrong with equality. But, then again, I guess most sexists, racists, and homophobes do have a problem with exactly that. Charles Weijer
Coordinator, Lesbians and
Gays of McGill

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contributors

Mary Jane Hutchinson, Fiona Dellers, Neelam Sandhu, Susan Vivian, Shannon Aldinger, Lynn Chaiken, Dan Tai, Michael Rottmayer, Steven Sowinski, Daniel Koffler, Eric Smiley

Editorial Offices: 3480 McTavish, room B-03 Montréal, Québec H3A 1X9 telephone (514) 398-6784
Business and Advertising Office: 3480 McTavish, room B-17 Montréal, Québec H3A 1X9

co-ordinating editor: Alex Roslin
co-ordinating news editor: —
news editors: Peter Clibbon, Robin Le Baron
layout and design co-ordinators: —
daily français: Anick Goulet
photo editor: Katerina Cizek
culture editor: Doug McDonald
science editor: —

Daily fax: (514) 398-8318

business manager: Marian Schrier, JoAnn Pickel
telephone (514) 398-6790
advertising managers: Boris Shedov, Olga Kontozissi
telephone (514) 398-6791
advertising layout and design: Rob Costain



WON'T YOU BE MY LABOUR?

The Daily investigates the future of the organized labour movement

Part Two

Nurses wage uphill fight over pay equity, Bill 160

It's been two years since Québec nurses took longstanding grievances with the government onto the picket line. But the problems are still far from being resolved, says Ilene King, treasurer of the 44 000-member *Fédération des Infirmières et Infirmiers de Québec*, North America's largest predominately women's union.

Nurses are still dealing with the problems they raised during the strike, says King — discriminatory pay for women's work, poor job conditions, part-time work. The union is also legally challenging Bill 160, which the provincial government used to quash the striking nurses.

Bill 160 has set the climate for public sector labour relations in the Nineties. The Québec government has laid the groundwork for Ottawa's current strategy in their own public sector strikes.

The Federation will go to Congress in November to decide a framework for future strategies.

by Katerina Cizek

What are the most pressing challenges for public sector unions in Canada and Québec, given the recent strikes?

We are dealing with an employer who is also the legislator. It doesn't give us much room to manoeuvre.

Every time we try to use negotiating strategies that could work in the private sector, we are hit with another law. When we went on strike, the government imposed Bill 160, the Essential Services law. The government uses this law to designate any public sector worker as "essential," and included clauses to punish the union for striking. The union loses 12 weeks of deducted dues for every day of strike. Striking nurses lose two days' salary for every day not worked, and they lose one year's seniority for every day struck.

It's like a sword of Damocles hanging over our head.

Striking is a complicated issue for nurses. A lot of nurses will say, "I am professional, I will not strike." As well, the basic tenet of our profession is: "Thou shalt not knowingly abandon a patient." When we went on strike we had to live with this. We tried to ensure that the public was protected at the same time we hassled the government. It's a fine line to walk.

How are you challenging Bill 160?

The last two years have been extremely painful. We negotiated with the government, and we dropped our grievances. Finally, they gave us back our seniority, just before we won our case in the



Ilene King

Québec Superior Court, where we challenged Bill 160.

But the Superior Court judges are normally very shy to render decisions that go against the government. The Court's judgement actually doesn't nullify the law completely. The Court decided that there has to be some limit on taking seniority away, but said the government can still take away the dues, and can take away two days' salary for every day not worked.

So to use Bill 160 again, all the government has to do is alter the law a little bit: change a few commas and periods.

Getting back our seniority was not a clearcut victory and we are taking the case to the Supreme Court of Canada, to try to nullify the law completely.

Do Québec's tactics reflect a nation-wide trend of government attitudes to the public sector?

Nurses are having the same problems with our employers in other provinces. We have all suffered the salary freeze. It's happened in Manitoba. It's happening in New

Brunswick. It's already happened to us. But nurses in other provinces have one added advantage. They have one union throughout the province.

In Québec, we have separate unions that are affiliated to a federation. The government decided a few years ago not to deal with separate unions, only with a federation.

We have succeeded in regrouping about 80 per cent of all unionized nurses — 44 000 out of 49 000 unionized nurses in Québec.

But FIQ is really 92 separate unions. In their general assemblies, these unions may choose different priorities. That is their democratic right. We have to take these different opinions, and from them choose general priorities for the entire province.

We cannot arbitrarily decide at the federation level what the members need. I have to consult right down to the last member and hold meetings at every single hospital.

How much do you emphasize bread-and-butter issues over political issues?

There are always bread and butter issues in the negotiation. Then there are the issues that aren't always perceived as bread and butter issues, but they are — organization of work, certain evaluation systems, at a union level; we have to evaluate these, too.

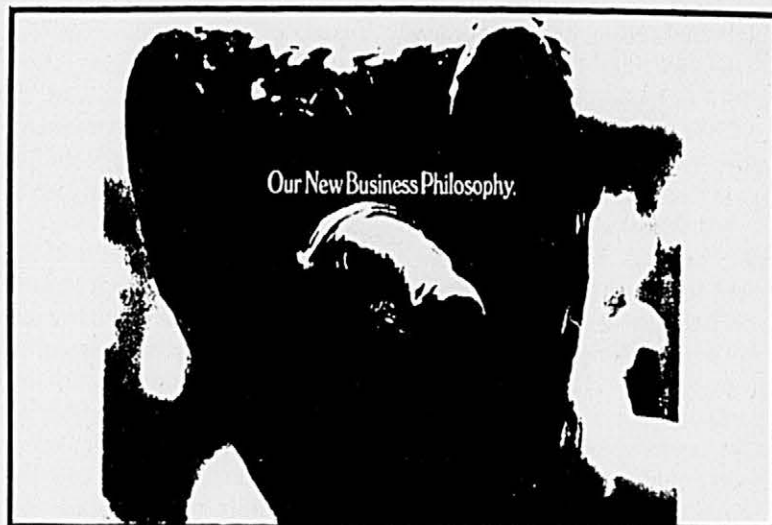
There's also the entire question of new technologies, especially the issue of computerizing hospitals. Some hospitals now have computer terminals in every room. When the nurse sees her patient, she puts her key in the computer and types her notes right into the computer. Theoretically it's more efficient, but you also have the question of accessibility, of confidentiality.

Our federation is not just a labour relations union. We're interested in lots of social issues that will potentially touch our members and our patients. We have been up to our ears with the new Social Services law, Law 120.

How has the Fédération reacted to this new health reform?

It's difficult because the politicians always have the documents in their hands, while we get the documents one day and have to respond the next.

We are not opposed to the idea of using Community Clinics (CLSCs) as the patient's first point of access to the health system because hospital emergency rooms are overflowing. But it does raise questions of accessibility. A lot of CLSCs are in office buildings. How do you get into office buildings at three in the morning? And then there's the issue of security. You



don't leave one nurse alone there at night. And she's got to have medical back-up.

The nurses' union is an exception to the rule. Most unions still represent mostly white, older males. What effects does this have on your union?

One of our priorities is salary equity. A cook makes more money than a first-echelon nurse.

Traditionally, nursing is a female job, and so the salaries are lower in comparison to traditionally male jobs.

We do have male nurses. I find it interesting that they become heavily involved in the union movement, in proportion to their numbers. About eight to 10 per cent of nurses are men. Yet, men make up 25 per cent of my delegation.

Why has the labour movement had such a problem organizing women workers?

We as nurses were easier to organize because we have the same profession.

You have to remember that in Quebec not too long ago nurses were nuns, at least in the francophone sector. So, that means they weren't paid at all. Now, in hospitals, every single job title is organized, including office clerks.

Traditionally, female workers are harder to organize. I don't have an explanation for that. There has been great success in the past with the garment workers' industry, made up mostly of women also. But the productive jobs, the male jobs, organized first.

There is a major problem in organizing though. I recently heard some statistics which really surprised me. Ten years ago unions represented 32 per cent of the American workforce — they didn't say male or female. Today it's only 16 per cent. It's going backwards. Unions were formed as a reaction to employers who didn't respect the employee as a human being.

There was a point, I must admit, when unions became all-powerful and extremely demanding. They were created as a defence for mem-

bers and they became a defensive weapon. Our goal is always to defend our members and get the best deal we can.

But we are also a responsible agent for social change and we have to look at the context.

How has your union reached out to other communities to affect that kind of social change?

We do have connections with a variety of groups. As the largest organized female union in North America, we have a strong connections with feminist groups. As an agent of social change, you can't have your nose in your belly button and only talk labour relations. At the congress, we will be focusing on all types of violence. We are also proposing to our members that we get heavily involved with environmental groups.

But then there is the dilemma that if we recycle paper, what if 200 lumberjacks lose their jobs. How do you conciliate those opposing views?

How is your union dealing with the Québec national question?

We will be discussing it at the Congress, our members want us to take a position. But we are not just discussing whether or not Québec should separate. We're also thinking about what kind of society we want to build.

We want to discuss native rights, English rights, minority rights.

But we can't deal with too many issues. We have to target specific causes. You have to remember that we have to deal with dues. We have to take every penny and split it three ways. We do not have limitless resources.

What's on the agenda at the Congress?

We will discuss large principles that will be guiding us for the next two to five years — violence, poverty, environmental issues and the general orientation of the union.

We are a democratic structure. Democracy is a difficult beast, it does make life difficult sometimes. But I'd rather have that than a dictatorship.

UN rewards B.C. co-op

by Martin Chester

VANCOUVER (CUP) — A housing project in Vancouver's troubled east-end has gotten a housing advocacy group onto a list of candidates for a prestigious United Nations award.

"Most people who win awards don't build social housing because of the tight budgets involved," said DERA organizer Stephen Leavey.

"It helps to have this recognition when it comes to getting government funding."

But the award is ironic, Leavey said, because the federal government has eliminated the program which funded the housing project.

The Four Sisters Co-operative is a housing project built in 1987 by the Downtown Eastside Residence Association (DERA), a neighbourhood improvement organization. The co-op is one of five finalists for the World Habitat Award, granted to projects which provide practical and imaginative solutions to housing problems.

The 153-unit project consists of three buildings, including a converted 100-year-old warehouse, and provides play areas for children. It is the first North American development to be chosen as a finalist.

Leavey said that although the project has won awards from the Architectural Institute of B.C. and the Urban Development Institute, this is the first international recognition Four Sisters has received.

"Vancouver Mayor Gordon Campbell voted against the project and fought against it being built," said Leavey.

"We feel vindicated."

Leavey said new housing has to be built to replace housing currently being torn down by developers, and the government has to be involved because of the price tag.

DERA has been one of the prime factors in keeping the downtown east-side from becoming more of a slum, said David Hulchanski, a housing expert at the University of Toronto.

"Without some organization and some leadership in that area it's downhill, like in American cities," said Hulchanski. "That has been prevented here by these kinds of projects."

Several unique elements of the Four Sisters Co-op make it an outstanding project, said Hulchanski.

"What's unique about the co-op is the inner-city neighbourhood in which it's found, the attention to detail and that it is a co-op," Hulchanski said. "In the U.S., districts like this are developed and become slums. There has been an effort to keep the hotel stock there in the downtown east-side, and that has resulted in less homeless people."

Jeff Brooks, a planner for the Vancouver departments of health and social planning, said while DERA deserves the recognition, governments should provide funds for social housing.

"I think it's a great honour for the city and for DERA," Brooks said. "DERA has been instrumental in getting social housing in the area, but you can't do anything without money."

DERA is funded by memberships and donations as well as government grants which pay for salaries and specific projects.

NEWS BRIEFS

Senate

McGill's V.P.-Advancement Michael Kiefer announced a bizarre plan to raise \$200 million for McGill in the McGill Senate last Wednesday. The plan is to seek at least one \$25 million and one \$15 million donation.

Kiefer also announced plans by McGill alumni to go for a cruise to South Africa. They attempted a similar plan in 1984, but abandoned it after a substantial public outcry. Kiefer said he wanted to inform Senators well before the cruise was underway, to ensure there would be no objections.

McGill ruling junta

Principal Davey Johnson announced at a joint Senate-Board of Governors meeting last Tuesday that the 1991-92 McGill budget is projected to balance for the first time in several years.

The Québec government has demanded that all provincial universities eliminate their entire deficits over the next three years. Johnson announced that McGill would be attempting to meet the same deadline.

In accordance with its deficit-

reducing plans, Johnson announced that the university administration was continuing to pressure the provincial government to allow universities more power to set tuition fees.

The university intends to continue raising fees until they reach the national average, Johnson said. McGill tuition fees for full time students currently run at about \$1400, up from \$650 two years ago. The national average is presently estimated at \$1900, according to Johnson.

Johnson also announced that Honora Shaughnessy, former employment equity coordinator, has been appointed full-time director of the Employment Equity Office. The Office was created on the advice of a lengthy report published last spring.

The question period at the joint Senate-Board Meeting was occupied almost entirely by a debate over the administration's proposal to close the Dentistry Faculty. Speakers criticized the procedures used in the closure; the role of Principal Johnson; and the financial data upon which the recommendation for closure was based. Johnson and several other speakers defended the proposal.



Screw the government; write your own regulations.

Chemical firms sprucing up image

by Michael Rottmayer

Some Canadian chemical manufacturers will get the jump on the federal government by creating their own environmental and safety regulations.

Packaged under the title "Responsible Care," the regulations would govern the manufacture, transport, use and disposal of substances produced by members of the Canadian Chemical Producers Association (CCPA).

"The codes will span the complete life cycle of chemicals from creation to destruction," said a CCPA document.

Peter Tzantrizos, an Adjunct Professor at McGill's Department of Chemical Engineering, was skeptical. "It is good that they have these grand objectives, but they are going to be hard to implement."

Most chemical companies already have their own set of safety

rules and guidelines. But the new regulations would standardize the industry and make simplify enforcement.

Salvatore Gurriero, a resource member of the Canadian Society for Chemical Engineering (CSChE) said "The chemical industry has, quite unfairly, a bad image. They have one of the best safety records."

The CCPA wants to be regarded as a responsible industry. Reasons for self-regulation include "implicit moral obligations," and fear of excessive government regulation of their industry.

"If there is an accident, it will be chemical X from Company Z that will be in the media," said Claude Roy of the CCPA.

Roy spoke at McGill about self-regulation at a reception last week. The talk was sponsored by the CSChE whose members include academics, professionals, and students.

By next year, compliance with the CCPA regulations will be mandatory for membership in the association. To ensure compliance, customers and members will be inspected by independent firms. Some companies are already showing resistance to being inspected.

Roy mentioned one company who withdrew from the CCPA because of the cost of meeting the new standards. CCPA wants to work with the government to force non-members to adhere to regulations. Gurriero said membership in CCPA could eventually become mandatory for all chemical companies.

Roy said the final goal is to ensure chemical products "do not present an unacceptable level of risk to employees, customers, the public, or the environment." What remains to be defined, however, is Roy's definition of "acceptable."

PRESS BRIEF

Campus Edition, a regular insert in the *McGill Daily*, was pulled from 16 Canadian student newspapers after racist references appeared in an article promoting the film "Ricochet."

The controversial article appeared in the September edition of *Campus Edition*. The insert was rejected by newspapers' editors for its racist comments concerning the acting abilities of Denzel Wash-

ington.

Editors of *Campus Edition* apologized for the comments and rewrote the article.

The *McGill Daily* is a member of Campus Plus, an advertising organization affiliated with Canadian University Press (CUP). *Campus Edition* is inserted into every CUP newspaper on a monthly basis.

News writers meet this and every Wednesday to learn about news, and to say aloud: "Aren't they fuckers?" 17h00.

Ads may be placed through the Daily business office, Room B-17, Union Building, 9h00-14h00. Deadline is 14h00, two working days prior to publication. McGill Students (with valid ID): \$3.50 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$2.50 per day. McGill Employees (with staff card) \$4.50 per day, 3 or more consecutive days, \$3.50 per day. All others: \$5.00 per day, or \$4.00 per day for 3 or more consecutive days. (Prices do not include applicable GST or PST). For more information, please visit our office in person - WE CANNOT TAKE CLASSIFIED ADS OVER THE PHONE. The Daily assumes no financial responsibility for errors, or damage due to errors. Ad will re-appear free of charge upon request if information is incorrect due to our error. The Daily reserves the right not to print any classified ad.

1 - Housing

Apartment to share with two students. Beautiful 7 1/2 duplex, modern kitchen, bathroom, fireplace, 15 min. to McGill. \$250.00. Call John 483-3992.

5 1/2 Westmount Park to share, non-smoker. Atwater/Vendôme metro 5 mins. Near tennis, pool, rink. \$287 heat incl. 931-4873.

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2 - Movers/Storage

Moving/Storage. Closed van or truck. Local and long distance. Ott-Tor-Van-NY-Fla. 7 days 24 hours. Cheap. Steve 735-8148

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3 - Help Wanted

\$\$\$WANTED\$\$\$ Students to promote SPRING BREAK trips and travel FREE! Call Chantal at (613) 236-8441 (collect) or at 1-800-265-1799.

Gourmet Food Demonstrators needed for in-store sales. Locations include Laval, St. Laurent, St. Hubert, Anjou, Gloucester (near Ottawa) and Quebec City. Dates: October 10th, 11th, 12th and 17th, 18th, 19th. 10 hrs./day. Must be bilingual. We'll train you in 30 minutes. \$7/hr. Call Jeff at 739-9861.

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Legal problems? The McGill Legal Information Clinic's staff of law students can help you. Call 398-6792 or visit University Centre B-20/B-21 10 am to 5

pm Mon.-Fri.

7 - For Sale

Fridge + stove (\$450). Fridge alone (\$250) 2 black leather bar stools (\$50 ea.) IBM compatible XT: monochrome monitor, 640K, 20 Mb Hard disk, 2 floppy drives, WordPerfect French/English (\$800) Large wool rug 12'x18' (\$150). All prices negotiable. 279-8924.

Perfect student car, Mazda GLC 1985. Silver Grey, 150,000 km. Asking \$1000.00. Call 495-4284.

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Commodore 64 with colour monitor, software and 2-yr. old Star NX-1000C Mult=Font printer. All excellent cond. \$450 or best offer. 284-6040.

21-Inch colour television (remote control) \$250.00 or best offer. Also for sale housewares (very cheap). Call evenings 286-1398.

Montreal-Vancouver, one way, female only, October 11. \$200 o.b.o. Call 733-0736.

Calgary - One way airline ticket, female, Oct. 6. Make me an offer (284-6503)

12 - Personal

Girl that makes me go hmmm... Saturday 28th, 3471 Hutchison party, long, blond hair + big tweed jacket. More smiles for paisley shirt? Redpath 3rd. Our times are changing. After Oct. 5th, McGill Nightline is open from 6pm-3am every night. So call us before dinner. 398-6246

13 - Lessons/Courses

Interested in Iranian culture? The Iranian Association of Quebec offers Persian language courses for adults (Levels I and II) For info call (514) 289-9639.

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La Langathèque: Montreal's first and largest linguistic exchange club. Exchange English for French, Spanish conversation (etc). \$30 students. 597-0680.

14 - Notices

Montreal Antiquarian Book fair. 40 sellers from North America and Europe. Out-of-Print, rare, illustrated books; maps, prints, postcards. Saturday, Sunday, October 5&6; Noon to 18 hrs. Hotel Maritime, 1155 Guy.

Stepping Out? Join us at the Yellow Door's Lesbian and Gay Discussion Group. A social extravaganza. Fridays 17h30. 3625 Aylmer. Sponsored by GALOM.

Locker Room Blues? Tell us about it! Lesbian and Gay Peer Counseling begins this week. Drop by or give us a call. Tues.-Sat. 7-10 pm. Union 417. 398-6822.

16 - Musicians

ATTENTION Bass Players, if you like J. Brown, J's Addiction, RHCP's, Fishbone, Hendrix & Stones and want to join a groovin' funk & roll band, call Eric @ 288-0861.

17 - Parking

Parking Space wanted. Near McGill (e.g. Milton-Aylmer) for year. Price to be discussed. Call Michelle Days 737-6966. After 5 pm 735-8716.

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TONIGHT in the Leacock Bldg.
Room 26 at 6:30 p.m.
MEMBERS & INTERESTED PEOPLE URGED TO ATTEND
For info: John at 682-0992

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For information, call 398-4104
All Welcome
FREE ADMISSION

Events

Walk Safe Network is not your ordinary meeting service. Their goals are womens' empowerment and safe walks home. Their inducements are cookies, conversation and nightly departures in all directions from the MacLennan lobby. 22h55 nightly.

Help Bring Phish to McGill. Sign the petition to bring a phenomenal concert band to McGill. Phish can be described as a mixture of Grateful Dead, Jazz, Funk and Heavy Metal, and are Phucking Phantastic. Look for enthusiastic petitioners fluttering about the Union Bldg.

The current state of East Berlin is the topic of a lecture today by Melvin J. Lasky, founding editor of "Encounter." Bronfman Building, 6th floor. 13h. Info: 398-4216. FREE

"When the Wall came tumbling down." Melvin J. Lasky speaks again about Berlin and post-cold war Germany. But

this time at the Moot Court in the Law Building, 3644 Peel. 18h Info: 398-4216. FREE

Tsuribaka Nisshi—"Free and Easy." A film by Japanese director Tomiyo Kuriyama. A tale of a fisherman, his wife and the dilemma of "status versus comfort." Part of a Japanese film festival presented by the Centre for East Asian Studies. English subtitles. FDA Auditorium. 20h.

"Welcome to Canada." A Canadian film about refugees directed by John Smith. Janet Dench, member of the Canadian Council for Refugees, will speak afterwards, and a discussion will follow. Sponsored by Amnesty International. Leacock 132. 19h30. FREE

Support Public Service Strikers! The McGill Strike Support Committee is encouraging students to join a solidarity picket with PSAC trade-unionists tomorrow morning, early. The student contingent will meet at the corner of Ste. Catherine and Jeanne Mance. Info: 528-5586. Thursday 8h.

TODAY, yes today, when was that again? Today.

A meeting of News Writers, including ones who are new news writers.

That's to-day. Union B-03. 17h00.

Le sens de l'aventure vous intéresse? Et celui de la vie?

Réunion du Daily Français, ce soir, 18h00, Local B-03 du centre universitaire

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